

3. (Amended) A method of chromatographic separation of at least two substances comprising:
- providing the two substances, and
  - separating the two substances using a monolithic sorbent according to claim 1.

Please add the following claims:

4. An encased monolithic sorbent according to claim 1, wherein the at least one ceramic moulding has interconnected macropores, and mesopores in the walls of the macropores, wherein the diameter of the macropores has a median value of greater than 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  and wherein the diameter of the mesopores has a median value of 2 to 100 nm.

5. A method of encasing a monolithic ceramic sorbent comprising:

- providing a monolithic ceramic sorbent, and
- providing a tightly-fitting pressure-resistant fitted polymer casing around the ceramic sorbent.

6. A method according to claim 5, wherein b) is carried out by shrinking a pressure-resistant thin-walled polymer tube around the ceramic sorbent.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein the polymer is PTFE or FEP.

8. A method according to claim 5, wherein b) is carried out by applying a plastic in the form of a powder to the monolithic ceramic sorbent, and melting or sintering the plastic.

9. A method according to claim 8, wherein the plastic is a polyether ketone or PTFE.

10. A method according to claim 5, wherein b) is carried out by extruding a plastic onto the ceramic sorbent and pressing the plastic against the ceramic sorbent.

11. A method according to claim 5, wherein b) is carried out by providing a pre-shaped plastic tube about the ceramic sorbent, and reducing the diameter of the tube.

12. A method according to claim 11, wherein the diameter of the tube is reduced by warming, sintering, flame spraying, single or multiple shrinking-on, or a combination thereof.

13. A method according to claim 5, wherein step b) is carried out by coating the outer surface of the ceramic sorbent with resin, polysiloxane, or a glass.

14. A method according to claim 5, additionally comprising  
c) providing a pressure-resistant tube around the ceramic sorbent and casing, for forming a chromatography column.

15. A method according to claim 14, wherein the pressure-resistant tube is comprised of stainless steel or aluminum.

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